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May 16, 2005

## Filed Electronically

Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary 236 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Suite 110 Washington, D.C. 20002

Re: Notice of Ex Parte Presentation, WT Docket No. 05-63

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On May 13, 2005, Michael D. Rosenthal of SouthernLINC Wireless, and myself, together with David Rines of McDermott Will & Emery, LLP, met with Louis Peraertz, Sara Mechanic, Scott Delacourt, Peter Tenhula, G. William Stafford, Walter Strack, Jeffrey Steinberg, Paul D'Ari and Ramona Melson of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau and Joel Rabinovitz, James Bird, Neil Dellar, and C. Anthony Bush of the Office of General Counsel to discuss the proposed merger of Sprint Corporation and Nextel Communications, Inc. At this meeting we discussed the need for a condition to be placed on this proposed merger regarding roaming.

We discussed the important public interest considerations underlying the availability of roaming and the potential harm the proposed merger could have for consumers of wireless services – particularly those who live in areas not directly served by a nationwide carrier – absent a condition on roaming for voice, digital dispatch, and data services. We indicated that the Commission's decision approving the Cingular/AT&T Wireless merger clearly establishes roaming as an important part of the Commission's analytical framework in reviewing whether a proposed merger is in the public interest. As to the availability of roaming, we discussed the unique nature of iDEN service and the lack of roaming alternatives. We discussed the difficulties SouthernLINC Wireless has experienced in its attempts to obtain roaming with Nextel and Nextel Partners, the impact this has had on wireless customers, and how these problems would be exacerbated by the proposed merger.

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Pursuant to the Commission's Rules, this letter is being submitted to the Secretary's office, with copies to the individuals listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

cc:

Louis Peraertz
Sara Mechanic
Scott Delacourt
Peter Tenhula
G. William Stafford
Walter Strack
Jeffrey Steinberg
Paul D'Ari
Ramona Melson
Joel Rabinovitz
James Bird
Neil Dellar

C. Anthony Bush